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REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 9-44 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. A listing of all pending claims is at pages 2-7. Claim 1 has been amended herein to more clearly emphasize aspects of the subject invention, and such amendment is not intended to narrow the scope of the claim as originally presented. Moreover, the amendment incorporates limitations from cancelled claim 8, and therefore the amendment does not raise any new issues requiring further search or consideration. Accordingly, any new Office Action (other than a Notice of Allowance) in response to this Reply should non-final.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

I. Objection to the Specification

The specification is objected to because the Examiner believes it includes an embedded hyperlink at page 8 which is employed to serve as an enabling reference. The referenced line contains two examples of Universal Resource Identifiers (URI) that do not link to any specific locations on the internet. They are non-functional and are merely provided as non-specific examples of possible form for URIs. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-44 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by McFadzean *et al.* (US 2001/0037302 A1). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons. McFadzean *et al.* does not teach or suggest each and every feature of applicants' invention as recited in the subject claims.

In particular, independent claim 1 recites a *resource identifier that identifies resources associated with the application, a manifest that logs the resources, and an aggregator that aggregates a subset of the resources into one or more application images to facilitate administration of the application*. Independent claims 19 and 29-32 likewise relate to *combining resources and an application identifier into an application*

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image. The cited reference does not disclose or suggest such claimed features of applicants' invention.

The present invention as claimed relates to a system and methodology that provides one or more application image(s) from a collection of disparate resources associated with an application. As an example, many Web-based and/or other applications consist of a plurality of different types of resources that collectively contribute to overall functionality of an application. These resources often are distributed in various directories, memory locations, and files, as well as system configurations and/or other images, for example, within a computer system or distributed computing system. The application image(s) of the present invention mitigates the time and complexity involved with administration of the resources as individual components (*e.g.*, replication, monitoring, upgrading), as well as providing other aspects such as enabling application extensibility, for example.

In accordance with the present invention, a manifest is provided wherein the resources are identified within an application image. The resources can be identified by resource identifiers associated with the respective resources within the manifest, wherein the application image includes an identifier such as a Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) to maintain the application identity. In this manner, administrative tasks can be performed on the application, thus mitigating the need for knowledge or direct manipulation of the resources that define the application. Other aspects of the invention as recited in various dependent claims include monitoring, versioning and staging of the singular application along with providing deployment, extensibility, and policy management capabilities, managing version control, application deployment, load balancing, meeting service level agreements, adding additional application components, etc.

McFadzean *et al.* merely discloses a communication system for locating and accessing an *information* resource in a distributed network environment given a unique identifier. The *information* resources as described in the cited art are online resources such as a web page, digital image, MP3 file, etc. or offline resources such as a person, restaurant, store, etc. In particular, these resources are items a user would desire to retrieve for information purposes. McFadzean *et al.* does not teach or suggest *resources*

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that are associated with an application let alone *aggregating the resources into an application image* to facilitate administration of the associated application as in the claimed invention.

McFadzean *et al.* identifies an ID registry server that provides a Universal Resource Locator (URL) of an ID host server associated with a resource ID. Furthermore, McFadzean *et al.* describes a DWID server that stores profiles for resources. These servers are used for matching the resource identifier to the resource location and resource profile. McFadzean *et al.* does not teach or suggest that the resource ID, profile, ID registry server, or DWID server individually or in combination provides a complete representation of the resources and policies associated with a particular application for the purpose of *facilitating administration of the application*, such as the *application image* as in applicants' claimed invention. Moreover, McFadzean *et al.* does not teach or suggest a *deployment wizard* that facilitates distribution of the *application image* to other systems as recited in claims 33-41. Rather, McFadzean *et al.* simply describes a communication system for matching the identifier to its associated *information* resource and a means for locating and accessing the resource and resource profile.

In view of at least the foregoing, it is readily apparent that McFadzean *et al.* does not teach or suggest the subject invention as recited in the independent claims and those that respectively depend there from. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
AMIN & TUROCY, LLP



Himanshu S. Amin
Reg. No. 40,894

AMIN & TUROCY, LLP
24TH Floor, National City Center
1900 E. 9TH Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone (216) 696-8730
Facsimile (216) 696-8731